

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2634

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJ: CCD: US-SOVIET CW CONSULTATIONS COMMUNIQUE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE AGREED AD REFERENDUM
BY US AND SOVIET DELS APRIL 4.

2. BEGIN TEXT: CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE U.S.A. AND USSR WERE CONDUCTED IN GENEVA BETWEEN
APRIL 1 AND APRIL 7 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURTHER CONSID-
ERATION OF ISSUES RELATED TO A POSSIBLE JOINT INITIATIVE
IN THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT WITH
RESPECT TO THE CONCLUSION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
DEALING WITH THE MOST DANGEROUS, LETHAL MEANS OF
CHEMICAL WARFARE AS A FIRST STEP TOWARD COMPLETE AND
EFFECTIVE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS. IN ADDITION THE
PROHIBITION OF OTHER HIGHLY TOXIC MEANS OF CHEMICAL WAR-
FARE WAS DISCUSSED. THE TALKS WERE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO
AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE USA AND THE USSR TAKEN ON THE
BASIS OF THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE OF JULY 3, 1974, AND WERE
A CONTINUATION OF THE CONSULTATIONS CONDUCTED IN GENEVA
IN AUGUST OF 1976. THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE USA AND USSR
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TO THE CCD, MR. HOWARD MEYERS AND AMBASSADOR V.I. LIKHACHEV,
HEADED THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS WHICH INCLUDED TECHNICAL EXPERTS.

QUESTIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF A TECHNICAL NATURE,
LINKED TO THE DEFINITION OF THE SCOPE OF PROHIBITION
AND WITH MEASURES FOR VERIFICATION OF A POSSIBLE AGREE-

MENT ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, WERE CONSIDERED. THE FORM OF SUCH A JOINT INITIATIVE WAS ALSO CONSIDERED.

THE DISCUSSIONS OF THESE AND SEVERAL OTHER MATTERS PROVIDE A USEFUL BASIS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF A JOINT INITIATIVE. THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WILL BE HELD AT A TIME TO BE DETERMINED. END QUOTE TEXT.

3. AT CONCLUSION OF APRIL 6 SESSION OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS SOVIET REP LIKHATCHEV SAID HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOSCOW TO CHANGE LAST SENTENCE OF COMMUNIQUE TO READ "THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK WITH A VIEW TO PREPARING THE TEXT OF AN APPROPRIATE AGREEMENT." LIKHATCHEV SAID THAT DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT US AND SOVIET SIDES SHOULD BEGIN PRACTICAL PREPARATION OF JOINT INITIATIVE. HE SAID THAT ABOVE SENTENCE WAS UNDERSTOOD TO BE TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM THE AGREEMENT BY SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO. IN VIEW OF FACT ALLIES HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT US THINKING IN TERMS OF JOINT INITIATIVE IN FORM OF AGREED KEY ELEMENTS OR PRINCIPLES, RATHER THAN IN FORM FULLY ELABORATED TREATY TEXT, LANGUAGE SUGGESTED BY SOVIETS COULD CREATE DIFFICULTIES. US REP (MEYERS), PARAPHRASING WHAT LIKHATCHEV HAD SAID, IN EXPLANATION OF SENTENCE SUGGESTED BY MOSCOW, PROPOSED SENTENCE MIGHT READ "THE TWO SIDES AGREE TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A PRACTICAL REALIZATION OF THIS JOINT INITIATIVE." LIKHATCHEV INDICATED HE HAD BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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GIVEN HIS LANGUAGE AS FIRM SUGGESTION.

4. INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED BY OPENING OF BUSINESS APRIL 7.

5. AT APRIL 4 MEETING, USSR REP SUGGESTED, AND US REP CONCURRED, THAT AGREED COMMUNIQUE SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO PRESS IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON MONDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 11, EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE FOR MORNING PAPERS APRIL 12, WITH GENEVA RELEASE TO US DELS AND PRESS IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER.SORENSEN

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Message Attributes

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